

## Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 /107 W

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R 281435Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0732

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3216

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, HO

SUBJ: AGRICULTURE: FENAGH CONVENTION HELD IN COMAYAGUA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE 32 ASSOCIATED MEMBERS, OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND INDEPENDENT FARMERS, AND THE FEDERACION NACIONAL DE AGRICULTORES Y GANADEROS DE HONDURAS (FENAGH) WAS HELD JULY 19-20. THE CONVENTION ADOPTED NINE RESOLUTIONS, REELECTED FERNANDO LARDIZABAL PRESIDENT AND HEARD SEVERAL SPEAKERS INCLUDING THE HEAD OF THE INSTITUTO NACIONAL AGRARIO (INA) LT. COLONEL MARIO MALDONADO. NO ACTION REQUESTED. END SUMMARY.

2. RESOLUTIONS: 1) "FENAGH DEPLORES THE EVENTS OF OLANCHO THAT HAVE PUT FAMILIES TO MOURNING, DEEPENED CLASS CONFLICT, AND CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE OF ANGUISH AND ANARCHY. LOVE ONE ANOTHER PREACHED CHRIST. HATE ONE ANOTHER PREACH OUR CLERICS."

3. "THE INSUFFICIENCY OF HONDURAN CLERICS HAS OBLIGATED THE IMPORTATION OF FOREIGNERS TO SPREAD THE CATHOLIC FAITH, BUT THIS CONDITION DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE INTERVENTION OF THESE CLERICS IN THE SOCIAL-POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF OUR COUNTRY, AND THE CHURCH SHOULD SEEK HARMONY AND AGREEMENT  
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AMONG HONDURANS AND NOT SUPPORT THE HATRED OF CLASSES..."

4. "FARMING AND RANCHING ARE THE MOST HONDURAN OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNTRY. THEIR ANNIHILATION

THROUGH A BAD PROCESS OF EXECUTION OF THE AGRARIAN LAW  
SIGNIFIES THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NATIVE HONDURAN AS A  
BUSINESSMAN."

5. "FENAGH SUPPORTS A PROCESS OF LAND REFORM THAT IS  
KNOWN AND EXECUTED AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT  
THAT BRINGS SOCIAL WELFARE TO ALL HONDURANS."

6. OTHER RESOLUTIONS CALL FOR THE NEED TO AVOID DES-  
RUPTION BY INA OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, STATING INA  
SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON LANDS WHICH ARE NOT PRESENTLY  
PRODUCTIVE. EMPLOYEES OF INA ARE ACCUSED OF AGITATION  
FOR LEFTISM. DIALOGUE AMONG INTERESTED PARTIES IS  
NECESSARY FOR AGRARIAN REFORM. HELP FROM THE PRIVATE  
SECTOR TO OBTAIN MODIFICATIONS OF THE AGRARIAN LAW.  
GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE BY LAW, NOT MEN. ONLY A REGIME  
OF LAW, WITH FREELY EXPRESSED PUBLIC WILL IS THE BASIS  
OF THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO INTRODUCE STRUCTURAL CHANGES  
CONFRUENT WITH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REALITY TO PERMIT  
HONDURAS TO REACH ITS JUST DESTINY.

7. SPEAKING EXTEMPORANEOUSLY, INA DIRECTOR MALDONADO  
WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE REFORM LAW ISN'T  
PERFECT AND CAN BE CHANGED IF THERE IS A DEMONSTRATED  
NEED TO DO SO. HE RESPONDED TO CRITICS OF INA'S ADVISORS  
SAYING THAT ALTHOUGH SOME ARE KNOWN MARXISTS, THEY  
WORK IN INA IN PART BECAUSE THEY ARE PROVIDED BY  
INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND BECAUSE HONDURAS DOES NOT  
HAVE ITS OWN EXPERTS IN AGRARIAN REFORM. HE STATED  
THE REFORM BEING SOUGHT IS "IN NO WAY TOTALITARIAN  
OR EXTREMIST".

8. A COMMENT AMONG THE OPTIMISTIC ATTENDEES WAS THAT  
MALDONADO'S VIEW THAT THE LAW COULD HAVE ERRORS, AND  
THE LNADOWNER'S EXPRESSED SUPPORT OF AGRARIAN REFORM  
COULD LEAD TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN FENAGH AND INA.

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9. FERNANDO LARDIZABAL WAS REELECTED PRESIDENT OF  
FENAGH BY ACCLAMATION.  
SANCHEZ

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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